



The Signature of the Savior

November 6th, 2016

TEXT: John 11:1-44

“Martha said to Jesus, “Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died. ²² But even now I know that whatever you ask from God, God will give you.” ²³ Jesus said to her, “Your brother will rise again.” ²⁴ Martha said to him, “I know that he will rise again in the resurrection on the last day.” ²⁵ Jesus said to her, “I am the resurrection and the life. Whoever believes in me, though he die, yet shall he live, ²⁶ and everyone who lives and believes in me shall never die. Do you believe this?” - John 11:21-26 ESV

FOUR PORTRAITS OF JESUS WHEN FACING A LOSS

1. THE SHADOWS OF JESUS’ LOVE

See: John 11:1-16

Two Kinds of Delays

- **The Delay of Fear**
- **The Delay of Love**

2. THE SYMPATHIES OF JESUS’ HUMANITY

When Jesus saw her weeping, and the Jews who had come with her also weeping, he was deeply moved in his spirit and greatly troubled. ³⁴ And he said, “Where have you laid him?” They said to him, “Lord, come and see.” ³⁵ Jesus wept. ³⁶ So the Jews said, “See how he loved him!” ³⁷ But some of them said, “Could not he who opened the eyes of the blind man also have kept this man from dying?” ³⁸ Then Jesus, deeply moved again, came to the tomb. It was a cave, and a stone lay against it. - John 11:33-38 ESV

We don’t have a priest who is out of touch with our reality. He’s been through weakness and testing, experienced it all—all but the sin. So let’s walk right up to him and get what he is so ready to give. Take the mercy, accept the help. - Hebrews 4:15-16 MSG

3. THE SOVEREIGNTY OF JESUS’ DEITY

Jesus said, “Take away the stone.” Martha, the sister of the dead man, said to him, “Lord, by this time there will be an odor, for he has been dead four days.” ⁴⁰ Jesus said to her, “Did I not tell you that if you believed you would see the glory of God?” - John 11:39-40 ESV

I AM...

- ...The Bread of Life - *John 6*
- ...The Light of the World - *John 8*
- ...The Gate of the Sheepfold - *John 10*
- ...The Good Shepherd - *John 10*
- ...The Way, the Truth, and the Life - *John 14*
- ...The Vine - *John 15*
- ...The Resurrection and the Life - *John 11*

4. THE SURETY OF JESUS' PROMISE

See: *John 11:21-26* (see above)

- **John 10:10** – The thief comes to kill, steal, and destroy; I have come that they may have LIFE, and have it to the FULL.
- **John 3:15-16** – ...everyone who believes in him may have ETERNAL LIFE. For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have ETERNAL LIFE.
- **John 5:21** – For just as the Father raises the dead and gives them LIFE, even so the Son gives LIFE to whom he is pleased to give it.
- **John 5:24** – I tell you the truth, whoever hears my word and believes him who sent me has ETERNAL LIFE and will not be condemned; he has crossed over from death to LIFE.
- **John 8:51** – I tell you the truth, if anyone keeps my word he will never see death!

Next Steps

- Memorize **Hebrews 4:15-16**.
- Develop a more powerful and personal relationship with Jesus.
- Give my life to Jesus as Savior and Lord, for the first time.

Walk The Talk

A Growth Group Guide

Read John 11:1-44 (idea: assign parts and act them out as a group!)

1. What loss/death was the hardest for you to accept? How did you recover from such a loss/death?
2. What do you learn about Martha from her conversation with Jesus (vv. 21-27)? How do you think you would have acted? What did she assume about the meaning of “rising from the dead”? Why was she shocked when he actually asked that the stone be removed (v.39)?
3. What do you learn about Mary from her interaction with Jesus (vv. 32-36)? Why did she hold back from meeting Jesus? How was this encounter the same? How was it different?
4. When you look through the four main points in the outline above, which portrait of Jesus helps you the most when you face a loss? Explain.
5. How does verse 25 sum up the whole of the importance of this miracle? How does it speak to someone facing death today?
6. If you were to turn this story into a story of new life in Christ, where would you be in the story? Still in the tomb? Alive, but with grave clothes? Alive and free of all grave clothes?